

REMARKS

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the Examiner indicated that the drawings failed to show all of the features of claim 12. Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to the drawings.

The features of claim 12 are shown in the drawings, particularly in Figs. 28A, 28B, and 28C, which are described in paragraph [0155] of Applicants' specification. Figs. 28A, 28B and 28C show structures formed during fabrication of a trench MOSFET. Fig. 28A shows an insulating layer 420 overlying a mesa including a body region with doping P_B. Processes for forming the underlying structure including the mesa and body region are described throughout the application and illustrated elsewhere in the drawings. Fig. 28B illustrates openings 422 etched in insulating layer 420, and Fig. 28C shows openings 422 filled with a material such as metal (e.g., tungsten).

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Claims 1-12 were pending in the above-identified application when last examined and are amended as indicated above. The claim amendments clarify the claim language and are not intended to limit the scope of the claims, unless the claim language is expressly quoted in the following remarks to distinguish over the art cited.

Claim 9 was objected to as being unclear. In response, claim 9 is amended as the Examiner suggested to replace "dopant of the first type" with --dopant of the first conductivity type--. In view of the above amendment, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection to claim 9.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,583,010 (Mo).

Claim 1 is canceled.

Claims 5 and 7 are amended to depend from objected-to claim 9. Accordingly, claims 5 and 7 are patentable for at least the reasons that claim 9 is patentable as set forth below.

THE PATENT LAW OFFICES
OF DAVID MILLERS

6560 ASHFIELD COURT
SAN JOSE, CA 95120

PH: (408) 927-6700
FX: (408) 927-6701

Claim 8 is amended so that claims 8 and 10 now depend from objected-to claim 2. Accordingly, claims 8 and 10 are patentable for at least the reasons that claim 2 is patentable.

For the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Mo in view of page 420 of Sze, "Semiconductor Devices, Physics and Technology," 1985 (hereinafter Sze). Claim 6 is amended to depend from objected-to claim 9 and is patentable for at least the reasons that claim 9 is patentable as set forth below. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Mo in view of pp. 451-452 of Sze. Claim 12 is amended to depend from objected-to claim 2 and is patentable for at least the reasons that claim 2 is patentable as set forth below. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 2, 3, 4, 9, and 11 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected claim but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 9, and 11 are amended to independent form including the limitations of base claim 1 and any respective intervening claims. Claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 2 and no longer depend from a rejected claim. In view of the above amendment, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 2, 3, 4, 9, and 11.

Claims 13-19 are added. New claim 13 indirectly depends from claim 2. New claims 14 and 15 depend from claim 9, and new claims 16-18 depend from claim 11. New claims 13-19 are patentable for at least the same reasons that their respective base claims are patentable.

In summary, claims 1-12 were pending in the application. This response cancels claim 1, amends claims 2, 5-9, 11, and 12, and adds claims 13-19. For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application including claims 2-19.

Please contact the undersigned attorney at (408) 927-6700 if there are any questions concerning the application or this document.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO:

ED 036 982 362 US

Respectfully submitted,



David Millers
Reg. No. 37,396

THE PATENT LAW OFFICES
OF DAVID MILLERS
6560 ASHFIELD COURT
SAN JOSE, CA 95120
PH: (408) 927-6700
FX: (408) 927-6701